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of 1 Sheet I Form PTO-1449 US Dept. of Commerce ATTY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. (REV. 8-83) PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE 117097 New US Application INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) **APPLICANTS** Eric A. MERZ et al. FILING DATE January 21, 2004 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER** SUB INITIAL **DOCUMENT NUMBER CLASS** DATE NAME **CLASS** ı 5,420,625 05/30/1995 Dietl et al. 2 5,971,531 10/26/1999 Dietl et al. 3 5,182,579 01/26/1993 Haruta et al. 4 New US Application (Atty Dock-#-117412) 12/30/2003 Hilton et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS SUB DOCUMENT.NUMBER DATE **COUNTRY CLASS CLASS** 5 EP 0 956 959 A2 11/17/1999 Europe OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) **EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: January 21, 2004